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# With the Iowa State Home Economics Association

## EXTENSION COMMITTEE REPORT

By Avis Talcott

Two years ago, when Miss Lita Bane, Executive Secretary of the American Home Economics Association, addressed the Iowa Home Economics Association at their annual meeting, she said, "We have two great American games, 'Let George do it' and 'Pass the Buck'."

The members of the Iowa State Home Economics Association believe the best way to make George feel responsible to "do it" is to find his last name and address. For over two years, we have said, "Wouldn't it be fine to have more than just two affiliated student home economics clubs in Iowa". This year, our new president and our former president decided to ask the extension committee to foster affiliated clubs. As a result, the "George" who is responsible for this piece of work in Iowa is the following committee:

Chairman, Miss Avis Talcott, Extension Service, Iowa State College, Ames, Iowa.

Miss Daisy Countryman, Head of Home Economics Department, Des Moines University, Des Moines, Iowa.

Miss Elizabeth Lamb, Director of Home Economics, Burlington Public Schools, Burlington, Iowa.

Miss Anna L. Leggett, Head of Home Economics Department, Iowa State Teachers College, Cedar Falls, Iowa.

Miss Gladys McCord, Home Economics Instructor, Central High School, Sioux City, Iowa.

Miss Frances Zuill, Head of Home Economics Department, Iowa State University, Iowa City, Iowa.

Mrs. Helen Wagner, Supervisor, Home Economics, Des Moines Public Schools, Des Moines, Iowa.

Miss Inez J. Whitney, Supervisor Home Economics, Public Schools, Davenport, Iowa.

On February 9th, three members of the committee, Mrs. Wagner, Miss Countryman and the chairman, met in Des Moines. The first question discussed was, "What are the real purposes for developing student clubs in Iowa?" The following purposes were given:

1. To develop a broader view of the scope of Home Economics than can be secured in the class room:

- a. By having students taking different courses work together

- b. By securing special speakers for the club and for the school on various phases of home economics and allied subjects.

2. To familiarize the school as a whole with the work of the Home Economics students in its broadest aspects.

3. To give an opportunity for expressing Home Economics standards in the social life of the school.

4. To bring out the aesthetic side of Home Economics.

It was decided to use the excellent article on Student Clubs in the December Journal of Home Economics for suggestive constitutions and also for suggestions for programs.

### Report of Des Moines University Club

At present we have three affiliated student clubs, one at Des Moines University, one at the State University of Iowa and one at Iowa State College.

The club at Des Moines University, Highland Park, Des Moines, Iowa, was organized in 1919. There are 28 active members and 50 alumni members. The purpose of the club is to give parliamentary and social training, to form a connecting link between home and school and to further the Home Economics movement.

The club meets twice a month, once for business and once for a social event. The business meeting is held the last Friday in every month, at which time a program is given consisting of a review of some story pertaining to Home Economics, one or two articles on Home Economics legislation, a reading or musical selection, and occasionally a debate.

The pageant giving the life of Ellen H. Richards was described in the February number of the Homemaker. It is the custom of the club to entertain new members at a special breakfast, also to entertain the varsity football squad. Recently a banquet was held at the Grant club in honor of the new instructor, Miss Daisy Leora Countryman, who is substituting for the head of the department, Miss Marguerite Gauger, who left for Illinois University to complete her work for her Doctor's degree.

Future plans include a talk by a local milliner, illustrated by hats from her stock, lectures on child care and a penny lunch.

### State University Club

Miss Bernice N. Stillman, president of the Home Economics club of the University of Iowa, sends the following report from her club:

The Home Economics club of the State University of Iowa is made up of the girls whose major interest is Home Economics. The club has a two-fold purpose; to further an interest in Home Economics and to serve as a social agency in the department.

The club meets regularly the first Monday in every month. Either a program or social hour or both have been planned for each meeting. The club has encouraged participation in programs by students as well as obtaining speakers from the outside. The social activities which the girls look forward to from year to year are: The Freshman Tea, Ellen H. Richards Day, Annual Christmas Dinner and the Spring Picnic. Other teas are arranged for the purpose of meeting new staff members.

The most important work of the club of the year 1924-25 has been the affiliation with the Iowa State Home Economics Association and the American Home Economics Association. The purpose of the affiliation was primarily to promote an interest in the American Home Economics Association. The girls wished to know more about the associations which represent them officially and felt that a definite affiliation would help to bring about a better understanding.

The important work at the present time is a drive for membership. We hope to report a large number in another issue.

The Home Economics Club in the university has results besides those obtained thru the educational programs and social activities. One of the chief values is encouraging students to organize high school home economics clubs when they leave the university. A prominent sociologist who spoke to the club said that the only excuse for the existence of such a club was the accomplishment of a very definite piece of work with a common will on the part of the group to reach that goal. The definite piece of work for this club is the promotion of interest in home economics whether it be thru educational programs or social activities or the organization of other clubs.

### Iowa State College Club

Miss Marie Plath, president of the Home Economics club of Iowa State College, tells the story of her club.

The Home Economics club at Iowa State College was organized in 1916. The membership totals over four hundred students with the Home Economics faculty as honorary members of the club.

The organization has for its purpose the bringing together of Home Economics students in a unity of purpose to discuss subjects of common interest. The club serves as a meeting place for all Home Economics girls and an aid in keeping its members in touch with the new developments in the field of Home Economics.

Due to the large membership, the major part of the business is carried on by a council. This council of seventeen members includes the four officers, a representative from each class and representatives from all other organizations whose activities are in the field of Home Economics. There are five faculty members on the council, including the Dean of Home Economics, the faculty advisor and three assistants. This council meets the first Tuesday of every month.

Open meetings of the club are held twice a quarter, the time of meeting being determined by the council. The programs for these meetings are planned about a definite subject of interest to the girls. The fall meeting dealt with local clubs.

Dr. Katherine Blunt, president of the American Home Economics Association, discussed the program of the association, stressing the importance of student clubs, at the winter meeting of the club. The International Home Economics movement will be the theme of the spring meeting.

During the winter quarter a "Vodvil" is given to make money to help support various organizations. This year 150 girls took part in the "Vodvil". At the time of the Veishea celebration in the spring, the club sponsors the Home Economics Open House and parade floats. Last year the Division of Home Economics was awarded the banner for being the best divisional open house.

The Home Economics club of Iowa State is affiliated with the state and national Home Economics Associations and feels that this contact is very essential and valuable. An organization standing alone cannot long exist and such contacts as those received from larger organizations are of great value to the affiliated clubs.